

# Modified Mercalli Scale of Earthquake Intensities

	Intensity	Characteristic Effect	Richter Scale Magnitude
I	Instrumental	Detected only by seismography.	3.5 – 4.2
II	Feeble	Noticed only by sensitive people.	
III	Slight	Like the vibrations of a heavy truck passing, felt only by people at rest.	
IV	Moderate	Felt by people while walking. Objects rock, including standing vehicles.	
V	Rather Strong	Felt generally; most sleepers awakened.	4.3 – 4.8
VI	Strong	Trees sway, suspended objects swing, loose objects overturn or fall.	4.9 – 5.4
VII	Very Strong	General alarm. Walls crack, plaster falls.	5.5 – 6.1
VIII	Destructive	Masonry cracks, chimneys fall, poorly constructed buildings damaged, water levels may change.	6.2 – 6.9
IX	Ruinous	Some houses collapse where ground begins to crack; pipes break open.	
X	Disastrous	Disastrous ground cracks badly, many buildings destroyed and railway lines bent; landslides on steep slopes.	7.0 – 7.3
XI	Very Disastrous	Few buildings remain standing; bridges destroyed, all services (rail, pipelines and cables) out of action. Great landslides and floods.	7.4 – 8.1
XII	Catastrophic	Total destruction; objects thrown into the air; ground rises and falls in waves.	8.1+